(b) Information is available about trainees who participated in National and International events from the above centres in Tamil Nadu. During the last three years, 343 trainees of these centres represented at the National level and four trainees represented the country in the international level competitions.

(c) The Ministry provides Central assistance to National Sports Federations under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations for participation in National/International tournaments in accordance with the approved pattern. State-wise allocation are not made either for SAI schemes or for assistance to National Sports Federation. The budget allocation under the Assistance to National Sports Federation and expenditure incurred during the last three years have been given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Budget Allocation (Year-wise)			Expenditure incurred (year wise)		
2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
2900.00	4400.00	5031.00	2565.8	2568.88	4053.43

Social security scheme for sports persons

1800. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce social security for the men and women in the sports field; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is already implementing the following two schemes for welfare of sportspersons;

National Welfare Fund for sportspersons:— The National Welfare Fund for sportspersons and their families was set up primarily to assist outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears, who are living in indigent circumstances. The financial support is given in the form of monthly pension up to Rs. 2,500.

(a) lump-sum financial assistance upto Rs. 40,000 is also given for medical treatment in case of injury.

(b) Sportspersons who suffer from fatal injury in the course of participation in sports events during training are also helped subject to maximum assistance of Rs.1 lakh.

Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons:— Under the scheme launched in 1994, pension is given to sportspersons who win medals in Olympics games, World Cup/world Championships, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games and Paralymic Games.

Schemes under Rural Sports Programme

1801. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run under the "Rural Sports Programme";

(b) the names of agencies through which the said programme is being undertaken;

(c) the criteria for allocation of funds for the implementation of the said project; and

(d) the details of funds allocated by Government for organizing rural sports programmes in Andhra Pradesh during the last one and half year alongwith the name of agency through which the funds have been allocated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is implementing a scheme of 'Incentives for Promotion of sports Activities' under which Rural Sports Programme is one of the components. Under this programme, rural sports competitions/ tournaments are organized at Block, District, State and National level. Sports Festival for the North-Eastern Region is also organized under this programme.

(b) Rural Sports Programme is being implemented through Sports Authority of India (SAI).

(c) Grant-in-aid is provided through SAI for organizing District level, State level and National level tournaments. For District level competitions,